



Sept. 1, 2006

This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE:

Commissioner Little has announced details of the new Drug Free Workplace policy which goes into effect on November 1, 2006. To read the Commissioner's letter to all TDOC employees and to learn more about the policy, click on the link below.

<http://www.intranet.state.tn.us/correction/correspondence/alltdocstaff.htm>

MLCC ACCREDITATION:



Commissioner Little says congratulations are in order for the management and staff at Mark Luttrell Correctional Complex. They successfully passed the American Correctional Association's annual re-accreditation audit with a score of 100% on mandatory and 98.6% on non-mandatory. Great job folks!

Ruth Bishop, MLCC's Accreditation Manager wants to thank J.R. Miller and Lee Vestal from Central Office for their guidance. Warden Reuben Hodge thanks his staff and central office staff for helping to make the audit a success.

TROUBLE IN SMALL PACKETS:



When an inmate at **MCCX** apparently tried to hide what appeared to be marijuana in sugar packets, Abby, the drug detector dog, wasn't fooled. While Cpl. Danny Bunch and Officers Bobby Schubert and Scott Johnston were completing an institutional search of an inmate's cell, Abby alerted on clothing hanging on the wall. The clothing was searched and one sugar pack was found. Then the locker was searched and a Top tobacco pack containing 20 sugar

packs that appeared to contain marijuana was found. Great job Abby and crew!

NWCX GIVES COURTHOUSE NEW LOOK:



Instructor Gerald Bell and his residential technology vocational class have begun a remodeling project at the Lake County Courthouse in Tiptonville.



The crew works to repair steps leading to the main entrance.

SIGN OF THE TIMES:

Turney Center Industrial Prison recently posted several signs advising staff and visitors entering the property of new directives for use and possession of tobacco products.

Effective October 1, 2006, **TCIP** will become one of the first TDOC facilities to comply with the new state law. To help employees and inmates quit tobacco, clinics have been scheduled during working hours. Nine employees have already signed up for the free clinics.



Most inmates have reacted positively to the tobacco ban saying they've "been needing a reason to quit."

MOUNTAIN CITY VIEW:

If you make the drive up to NECX anytime soon, be sure to stop by the C.R. "Doodle" Overlook Park.

There you can catch one of the most breathtaking views around.



DEPUTY TRAINING:

For three days this week, TDOC'S Deputy Wardens gathered at the Tennessee Correction Academy to receive specialized training in National Incident Management Systems (NIMS).



Participants also included Assistant Commissioner Roland Colson, Jim Dickman, Lolie Jones and Dan Strickland from central office as well as Academy personnel Betty Allison and Warren Williams. The training was delivered by CCA.



WHAT WOULD WE DO WITHOUT THEM?

Nearly 80 volunteers and their spouses were honored during the annual volunteer recognition banquet at **MCCX**. The inmate choir performs to the inmate chapel band. Volunteer Services Coordinator Richard Dixon expresses appreciation for the wonderful job that volunteers do.



Commissioner Little and Warden David Mills discuss the importance of volunteers to the department.

Commissioner Little greets inmates at MCCX.



K-9 SAFETY:

The first prototype K-9 container is being built at **STSRCF**.

The container is designed to be a safe transport for the dogs.



Once removing the backseat of the Ford Explorer, the container is placed inside along with a thick rubber mat for easy removal and clean-up. TDOC K-9 decals will be attached to the left and right rear quarter panels of the vehicle and on the upper right of the rear entrance door.



That should make for a happy K-9

NEW RECRUIT? Congratulations to CO's Tim and Lisa Dunn, **NECX**, on the birth of baby girl Tristan. "She's a good baby, said mom Lisa. The couple already has three children and dad Tim says, "We may have 17 more." Warden Howard Carlton said, "Good, We need more recruits!"



TASER TASKS:

Congratulations to the following personnel for successfully completing TASER Instructor certification training this week at TCA.

Joshua Barber and Roy Capps-**CBCX**

Keith Morrisett-**TCIP**

David Bunch, Kenneth Hutchison, Larry Moore and Shawn Phillips-**BMCX**

Stephen Coleman and Michael Reeves-**NECK**

Wendell Fulton and Jamie Proffitt-**NECX**

Dennis Henry, Donald Masson and James Miller-**TPW**

Robert Hyden, David Jordan and Rick Thompson-**TCA**

Gerald McAllister and Bradley McClure-**DSNF**

Keith Nimmo, Thomas Shell and Patricia Taylor-**WTSP**

SPREADING THE WORD:



It is one of the Commissioner's most important missions...helping inmates learn to become productive citizens when they are released. This week, Commission Little took his message to the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis where he attended the West Tennessee First Housing Summit presented by the Tennessee Re-Entry Collaborative.

MORE PICTURES FROM MOUNTAIN CITY:



PROFILES IN CORRECTION: The Untold Story.



You could call them a double threat. Identical twins Ronnie and Donnie Henson help keep things running smoothly at NECX, but it's during their time away from work that the pair really comes together.

"I can't describe it," says Sgt. Donnie Henson when asked to talk about his relationship with twin brother, Ronnie. "No one can understand it but a twin."

Ronnie and Donnie, 40, not only work together, but live next door to each other, take vacations together, and own a small business together.

"We do everything together", says Ronnie who is the facilities manager at **NECX**.

"It would be hard without him and I hope he would say it would be hard without me." Sgt. Henson heads the community service crew at **NECX**.

"80 to 90 inmates go out everyday. It's a real challenging job. I enjoy meeting people and helping in the community. They are very appreciative of what we do. We get thank you letters and cards. The list keeps growing everyday of people wanting to get on the list to have us to do things for them."

Between them, the twins are proud parents of five children.

The most influential person in their lives has been their father, Ray.

"He never quits," says Donnie. "He doesn't care to tell me if I'm not doing things right. In a lot of ways I turned out just like him and that's a good thing!"

QUOTES OF THE WEEK:

“Trust yourself to do the things that only you know best. Trust yourself to do what’s right and not be second-guessed. If you need somebody you can trust, trust yourself”.

-Bob Dylan, great American songwriter

“Through chaos comes opportunity, it brings forth the natural leadership and ability found in our correctional employee.”

-Roland Colson, Assistant Commissioner

“Better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to speak out and remove all doubt.”

-Abraham Lincoln

Can you guess who this quote is attributed to?

“You came and you gave without taking”